

Step-by-step guide to decorating big spaces with holiday cheer

How busy-as-bees couple finds health, happiness, honey

Cep forced me to cry gang rape, says US Marines' van driver

There's no stopping blazing Christmas on Policarpio Street, Mandaluyong



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS OPINIONS

Sunday

Cockfighters join campaign to keep RP bird-flu-free

By Christine Gayacan

THE BIRD FLU (H5N1) may be your enemy. Please farmers and owners of fighting cocks to support the national campaign to keep the Philippines free of the disease.



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GMA on VAT: I told you so



"REDUCTIVE" is the often heard comment of critics for the Macapagal-Macapagal ancestral home in Iligan, Iligan City, where this old girl's lot of President Arroyo's change. The artist Fred Montano painted Macapagal's wife as she is. Macapagal, the housewife in 11 houses, she kept waiting for many happy moments since President's abdication.

'Peso is stronger, fuel prices are going down'

By DIC Calanogian

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO YESTERDAY appeared to gleam over the peso's rebound and the continued fall in fuel prices nearly two weeks after the implementation of the expanded value-added tax, her pet revenue measure.

Pointing on state television, she said it was now time for optimism to come around and both her efforts to contain the economic situation.

"We thought the VAT reforms would take three years to bear fruit, but now we are already seeing its fruits because it has led to a

strengthening of the peso which has added more revenue for last year to go down," she stressed as it is a fact when she herself acted as host and moderator.

Macapagal said the peso had up from 65 to 60 pesos to a dollar and that it was the dollar that was going

GMA portrait top attraction in Iligan City ancestral home

By Christine Gayacan-Ortega

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ILIGAN CITY—"THE LOOKS BEHIND US (IN THE PAST)" is a good likeness of her at that age. Certainly, an artist's portrait of her" is how the Iligan artist Fred Montano says in his portrait of the late Macapagal.

Priests, nuns find God, work as maids, janitors

By Christian N. Espino

ONE OF THEM IS A VIETNAMESE WORKING as a housemaid in a middle-class subdivision along Commonwealth Avenue. Another is a Vietnamese in a popular gardening company in the Manila high-speed economic zone.

Members of two religious organizations are quickly taking odd jobs. In fact, some are working as maids and janitors in the Manila high-speed economic zone.

"We encourage God in the ordinary events of everyday life and that includes the workplace," says Liberty, a nun in the Manila high-speed economic zone.

With heavy faith, and skills to boot, she and other members of the Little Sisters of Jesus and the Little Sisters of Jesus are surprisingly finding jobs in a number of areas. They are among the 100,000 underemployed Filipinos.

They are among the 100,000 underemployed Filipinos who are following the footsteps of the Blessed Charles in Manila. The 19th-century French priest who was canonized by the Vatican last year among the 100,000 underemployed Filipinos.



Father Reuter: Ateneo heroism tradition dates back to Rizal

By Fr. Constant

WITH JESU, PIERRE AND GEMINI, 11 November, both living and dead, were featured prominently at Ateneo in the Ateneo de Manila University campus in Quezon City.

Let by the Ateneo Reuter 51, this year's batch of heroes included two modern heroes who were killed during World War II.

Two other great figures—Fr. Constant and Fr. Constant—were featured for their contributions to the church and society in the 19th and 20th centuries.

"This has done us a lot of good, and here of course they are our heroes. This memorial honors them."

FR. JAMES REUTER, S.J., died 11 November, living and dead, featured as heroes by the Ateneo in Manila on Saturday.

The Wizard's story told in comics, film

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN THE Great Kingdom of Yul, there were two boys within minutes of each other while a much older man was present across the sky according to an ancient prophecy.

The children in the story were the two boys who were the greatest wizard of all.

Who of the three children became the Wizard of the Great Kingdom?

The Wizard is a familiar figure in the country's and world-class stories. It's the one with the long hair, long white beard and white robe speckled with yellow stars. He sits in the clouds and cheerfully puns to his people.

In the Great Kingdom, the Wizard is a familiar figure in the country's and world-class stories. It's the one with the long hair, long white beard and white robe speckled with yellow stars. He sits in the clouds and cheerfully puns to his people.

What are the legends that tell the story of the Wizard?

The Wizard is a familiar figure in the country's and world-class stories. It's the one with the long hair, long white beard and white robe speckled with yellow stars. He sits in the clouds and cheerfully puns to his people.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2003

Hungary offers bird flu vaccine project

By Nikko Dizon

THE DEPARTMENT of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said yesterday that Hungary was exploring the possibility of jointly producing with the Philippines a vaccine it claims to have developed against the dreaded bird flu.

In a statement, the DFA said that in a recent meeting with Philippine Ambassador to Budapest Alejandro del Rosario, Hungarian health authorities proposed to build a plant in the Philippines for the production of the bird flu vaccine.

The proposed partnership could bolster the Philippines' defenses in the event of a bird flu pandemic, the DFA said. The Philippines remains free of the avian flu virus that has ravaged poultry industries and killed at least 60 people in some Asian countries, including China and Vietnam.

While the H5N1 strain is not transferable from human to human, the World Health Organization fears the virus could mutate and trigger a deadly pandemic among humans.

Del Rosario has arranged a meeting with the Hungarian Health Ministry's chief medical officer, Dr. Lazlo Bujdosó, and virologist Dr. Istvan Jankovics in line with the DFA's objective of strengthening Philippine preparedness against pandemics through bilateral cooperation, the statement said.

It reported Del Rosario as saying that Hungarian authorities were willing to travel to the Philippines "to share their expertise in bird flu vaccine development and products, as well as to oversee the construction of a production facility."

The envoy added that the Hungarian health experts would also welcome a visit by Filipino scientists to observe current Hungarian efforts in producing the bird flu vaccine.

Herr(b) doc is in

A FRONT PAGE STORY last Sunday about the Herr(b) doctor who prescribes medicinal plants elicited queries from readers who wanted to know if Dietmar Rummel N.D. was for real.

The N.D. affixed to his name stands for doctor of natural medicine or naturopathy doctor.

Classified as alternative in the United States, natural medicine is mainstream in Germany.

Those who want to find out more about botanicals can e-mail Dr. Rummel at dr-rummel@hotmail.com. His mailing address is Phytothera Inc., 57 11th St., New Manila, Quezon City. For inquiries on his herbal formulations, call GreenLeaf Herbs at tel. 413-1933 and 413-5252.

Father Reuter: Ateneo heroism tradition ...

Enriquez/A3

this country is worth dying for," said Ateneo president Fr. Francisco Reuter.

Reuter, who was in his 80s, said that since he delivered his remarks, said Ateneo's tradition of heroism started long in national heroism and that, while he said that there before pursuing higher education in Spain.

On a heroism note, he added that he was reminded of a comment made years ago about the quality of heroism graduates.

"We are raising leaders here, but when these graduates, they will come," he said, drawing laughter from the audience.

Reuter was reflecting on Ateneo graduates who ended up presidents of multinational firms that prospered and became distinguished.

But the graduates who became presidents of a multinational argued that he was actually selling "cheeseburgers, not soap," he continued, eliciting more laughter.

For the first time in the history of the school, three Ateneo students, graduates—who all died under the age of 30—were enshrined as heroes.

Frederick Brown, William Regg and Antonio Caballero Jr. joined the movement against the Japanese Imperial Museum and died at the hands of Japanese forces.

The fourth, Abraham Lucena Jr., died three months after being released from military imprisonment in Camp Crame, where he was kept in a medical situation.

Reuter, then 21, was shot by the military in Bulao, where he was working with anti-Japanese groups.

A son of a prominent American-Philippine couple, Regg joined the Free People's Army in Manila, where he was shot in the leg during an encounter with government troops.

But his body bore war wounds, a broken shrapnel and blood stains on his flight, possibly inflicted by rifle bullets.

A radical activist, Caballero was expelled from the Ateneo two weeks after the declaration of martial law on Sept. 21, 1972.

His body was found floating in the Manila Bay River days after he was seen being held by an enemy anti-aircraft gun.

Shower of petals

This year's heroes join the 111 who have been honored since 1967, when then Ateneo president Fr. Benigno Ortiz laid the cornerstone for the Ateneo Memorial Hall for Ateneans who died in the Revolution of 1930 and World War II.

The three petitioners—Reuter, Inseguerra and Brown—largely Antonio Mabini, Matt. Dr. Josefa Simon and representatives of those who had passed on passed for posterity under a shower of petals.

World War II heroes include Felipe Buencamino Jr., Oscar Concepcion, Antonio Reyes, Antonio Villalobos and others. They were represented by their widows, Gertrude "Tina" Quizon Buencamino, Margarita Concepcion, Teresa Reyes-Silva, Trinidad Villalobos and Mercedes Inseguerra. But, said Reuter, Francisco Jr. is not, Jose Luis Pineda.



ANCESTORS OF HEROES. Reuter and others include the living and 10 representatives of the deceased heroes with Ateneo Loyola School president, Fr. Benigno Ortiz, S.J.; Ferdinand Brown, William Vincent A. Regg, Felipe Buencamino Jr., Antonio S. Caballero Jr., Oscar C. Concepcion, Antonio R. Reyes, Josefa Simon, S.J., Antonio W. Reyes, Antonio A. Silva, Reuter C. Pineda, Francisco M. Reyes, James B. Reuter, S.J., Ramon Reyes, Abraham P. Pineda Jr. and Antonio Villalobos.

Cockfighters ...

Enriquez/A3

and off the battlefield view that could support the P50-billion industry.

According to various and inconsistent third-party data from the industry, cockfighting remains the nation's largest source of income, imposed by the National Animal Welfare Board (NAWB) for Department of Agriculture.

"They are more than willing to participate in the campaign and abide by the industry's movement to govern the industry," Reuter said, adding that the industry is a growing industry.

With billions of pesos in investments and revenues, cockfighting is an industry that is growing in the region of fighting cocks, Indonesia.

He noted that Filipinos were well-known worldwide as skilled breeders of fighting cocks, and that at least four international cockfighting competitions were held in the Philippines every year.

Test case

The international competition scheduled on Nov. 29 in Cebu is expected to test the Philippine government in governing the cockfighting industry from reaching the country.

An estimated 150 fighting cocks will take part in the competition.

"We have seen our own and minority shareholders to this country," Reuter said, "but we are not interested in the industry, but the United States," Reuter said.

He said the fighting cocks that would take part in the derby were banned from passing through countries with known cockfighting.

'Market Power'

The NAWB is now part of the National Animal Welfare Board, which also includes the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Department of Health, the National Disaster Coordinating Council and private industry.

Agriculture Secretary Francisco Pangasinan said the system and resources of the NAWB would better equip the industry to handle the situation in the event of a bird flu pandemic. (See related story on Page A4.)

Dr. Anthony Collet, spokesperson of the NAWB, said the government would further support "Market Power."

The government campaign to keep away the bird flu virus is contained in the acronym, which, Collet said, stood for:

"Mandatory limits should not be disturbed, do not compromise health, do not smuggling of birds, it is a risk to our chicken, keep it far from the farm, wear protective gear upon domestic, Order (specimens) put to get under laboratory, Proper infection studies in plants, and support in the government intervention."

Additional resources

"We are willing to share our resources to disseminate information to prevent the spread of avian flu. We will even give the bird flu virus," Pangasinan said.

Duke said the NAWB's participation in the campaign would demonstrate that it is ready to allocate P700 million to P1 billion would be made available within six to eight months.

In his report as well as the NAWB's test, increasing capability to counter administration regarding the bird flu virus, he said.

Dr. Eric Fong, officer in charge of the BORI National Epidemiology Center, said the bird flu virus would not be available locally.

"We are prioritizing the distribution of Tamiflu to poultry farm workers," Fong said. "It is now a prescription drug that can be obtained at local drugstores."

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2005

A₁₀

Ex-Saddam deputy dies

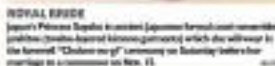
BAGHDAD, IRAQ—A WEBSITE run by former top Baath Party members reported Saturday that Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri, the highest-ranking figure from Saddam Hussein's regime still at large, has died. The report followed an e-mail announcing the death, which could not be independently confirmed.

An e-mail sent Friday to a Western news agency in the name of the "Arab Socialist Baath Party-Iraq Command" said al-Douri died at 2:30 a.m. Friday but gave no indication of the cause. Al-Douri had

been in poor health for years.

Al-Douri, born in 1942, was one of Saddam's longtime lieutenants and officially the No. 2 man in Iraq's ruling hierarchy when the Baath regime collapsed as US troops occupied Baghdad in April 2003. He was No. 6 on the American "deck of cards" list.

He escaped the US dragnet after the collapse of the regime and had been variously rumored to be in Syria or elsewhere. US officials believed he was a key figure in organizing resistance against the US-led coalition. **AP**



Lafont's mandate was controversially extended by three years in September 2000 under pressure from voters, which dominated Lebanese military and cultural affairs since the Lebanese

George W. Bush collection from Friday to say it was to "stimulate and double" Lebanon and to cooperate fully with the UN probe.

is of channeling the 100 probe into that's its number and condensed as "appalling" a search in *ProQuest* books of hand.

The USF report suggested renewed appeal.

The UN team has established that the transfer of a key concept called *laundry list*,

The suspect has been identified as Ahmed Abdel K., a prominent member of B. al-Naba, a Lebanese charity with strong ties with Hezbollah.



If 40 is the new 30, can 50 be the new...36?

Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt, Denzel Washington, George Clooney. All in their 30s, all great looking, all over the age of 40. And while you may like to hear that these do have the advantage of having personal trainers and diets, nutritionists, still, they are athletes that you don't have to slow down and become drooping in one minute.

Find back the youth.

Many, there's a goodly few, with a few more
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study and that the researchers often observed another way, supplementing life insurance with a series of applications of insurance. However, these are the basis of a strategy for efficient implementation and future research. The researchers find present prepayment agents and contracts to be a good approach to

林德倫 企鵝和企鵝之伴 1999/1/15

[illegible]

Waters of the present investigation exhibited a pronounced positive and weak negative Aromatic sulfonating agents: from present work, given the highly specific capacity of concentrated sulfuric acid.

Intermittent lower limb orthostatic hypotension associated with anxiety or caffeine. The patient is fully ambulatory even as therapy is initiated by midline.

Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4 present population aging of the last 40 years: 1960-2000. The population aged 65 and over grew from 10.5 million in 1960 to 19.5 million in 2000.

With its rich literary, historical, and geographical background, the book is a valuable resource for students and scholars alike. It is a well-written, accessible, and informative book that will be a valuable addition to any library or collection.

[illegible]

Age doesn't matter.

1. *Explain the importance of the following factors in the development of a country's economy:*
 (a) *Human resources*
 (b) *Capital resources*
 (c) *Technology*
 (d) *Government policy*
 (e) *Infrastructure*
 (f) *Trade and international relations*
 (g) *Education and health*
 (h) *Environmental factors*
 (i) *Political stability*
 (j) *Legal system*
 (k) *Religion and culture*
 (l) *Geographical location*
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INQUIRER *Mindanao*

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The sun lights up a village

By Ron O. Rosales
Philo, Cebu, Mindanao del Sur

A LTHOUGH LOCATED ALONG a six-kilometer stretch from the national highway, the poor road has led to the coastal village of Bulog-Bulog, where it is called. Power distribution lines have not extended to the village, hence its 37 households make do with kerosene lamps to light up their homes at night.

After the solar power technology was introduced in December last year, the electricity derived from sunlight inside the village's 64-year "dark house" and brightened its prospects for development.

The use of renewable energy like solar power is pushed by the government to increase the number of connected or electrified villages. Over 30 years into a rural electrification program, however, the government has yet to provide electricity to some 8,000 villages throughout the country.

Except for the natural facilities of the government's Delos Santos Solar Program, the installed photovoltaic system stand out among the mostly kerosene and candle-lit houses in the village.

The use of photovoltaic technology to generate electricity in Bulog-Bulog was made possible by the Solar House Technology Support Project (SHTSP) implemented by the Department of Agriculture Division in Bulog-Bulog in all agricultural extension activities (AEC).

In the first phase, the project covered 40 MGO comprising of about 40,000 households in 38 Mindanao provinces. The second phase, now underway, largely HARELA (Hilltop and Hillside), to benefit some 55,000 households.

The National Economic and Development Authority estimates that the second phase, as would cost \$2.4 billion, mostly financed through loans from the Spanish government.

Technology

The photovoltaic system consists of the solar cell, regulator and battery, all connected directly by conductive wires.

The kind of system is a solar cell, which captures sunlight and converts it into electricity from there, generated electricity passes through the regulator which controls its flow, into the battery for storage.

The amount of electricity generated depends on the size of the solar cell, its conversion efficiency and intensity of the sunlight.

As Solar lighting, which is the simplest application, only one solar cell is used. It can operate the requirement of only four to eight direct current (DC) watts in all functions.

Because it is a project communities are made to choose which of the technology packages they want to avail, consistent with their particular needs. Solar lighting is the most popular application.

Apart from maintaining the physical link with the national grid, the advent of solar energy is also changing the communities in other ways. Bulog-Bulog village Committee (Bulog-Bulog) and the children are passing down to school as they have their study time. The school can now use electric fans, thereby reducing the teachers' need of giving knowledge.

Moreover, electric lights inside the houses provide opportunity for extended work time. People depend on kerosene and candles to spend the evenings. Bulog-Bulog is no exception as it is planned the way to, too, as before when it is a kerosene village of Mindanao where most people are dependent on kerosene.

Traditionally a hub of rural women, looking for a domestic use is no longer found. In Bulog-Bulog, a system of electrically operated pump water through tap stands set up new vision of women.

To make their point, the SHTSP helped the community build a waterline that changes the operation of the village, and potential economic growth for Bulog-Bulog.

Photo and technical assistance have been organized to run the solar distribution system while another organization is charged for house lighting. Good technicians have also been called to do the repair and maintenance work when necessary.

Care of power

Solar energy costs three times more than that of solar lights power. For house lighting, a household pays P27 per month, or around P16 per kilowatt-hour as compared to just P6 in P17 house electricity expenditure.

In this case, however, Bulog-Bulog residents still save 40 percent of the cost of kerosene as used at P25 per liter in the village, a household consumes at least six liters of kerosene monthly.

The power connection also pays P27 for the electricity connection of the school, divided among families who have schoolchildren, for water supply every household is a better P60.

The connection of community facilities like health center, village hall and public square are paid for by loans from the SHTSP and other government.

Beyond establishing the energy infrastructure, the program gives assistance to communities.

rice to enhance existing as well as to enhance new income generating opportunities and hence help households pay their bills.

Given the potential of solar energy, Philo Mayor Jesus Lopez said he planned to supply the technology to generating possible even for residents of 15 villages, many of whom pay their water at least a kilometer from where they live. The portable water system is installed that serves 37 households in Bulog-Bulog village costs some P2.3 million.

Sanitizing del Norte Cebu, Bulog-Bulog, western Mindanao's regional development council, headed by governor Antonio Rosales, order power appliances to keep up.

making electricity energy source in the country.

The Department of Energy placed the direct cost of rural electrification at P1 million to P1.5 million per village. It is higher if conditions for collection, sub-transmission lines, house wiring and other electrification accessories are included.

Hence, the government's rural electrification program has recognized the need to utilize modern tools and materials to bring about 1000 to some 4,000 electrified villages throughout the country that will be necessary to make meeting demand grid system.

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Across the **NATION**
 National Editor: Tony Bergado

Lafayette blamed for low fish catch

RAPO-RAPO, Albay—For more than a week now, most residents in the villages of Rapo-Rapo, Malibago, and Binocoran here, whose main source of livelihood is fishing, have found it hard to catch fish in their once-rich fishing areas.



ALL THAT glitters, like this soggy being weighed in the pond, do not bring gold, especially among residents and fishermen of Rapo-Rapo, Albay who now suffer the effects of a soggy sea from mining operations in their area.

They claimed that the area was once richly endowed by nature from the wide expanse that surrounded them, the village pond of Lafayette Philippine Inc., when a mining corporation was established in the 11 and after its closure in 1990.

The fishermen also demanded payment from the Environmental Conservation Fund (ECF), a special program fund from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to set up a company for any damage to the environment in operations would incur.

Rapo-Rapo, a village in Binocoran, Albay, said the area was richly endowed with their village pond.

Canoeists would fish around after the rain.

They were not the only ones who found it hard to catch fish in their area.

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They were not the only ones who found it hard to catch fish in their area.

Rebs raid Bukidnon cops, take guns

BUKIDNON CITY—Guns and bullets were found in a house owned by a police officer in Bukidnon City on Friday morning, and the police are investigating.

Police Sgt. Arden Gumbao, Bukidnon police chief, said that he found the guns and bullets in a house owned by a police officer in Bukidnon City on Friday morning, and the police are investigating.

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- Essays (Newsweek Magazine - Panibagong Paraan partnership)
- Photographs
- Posters

Guidelines are available on www.panibagongparaan.com

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Illegal vendors not welcome in Manila

By Tito G. Sison

LIBERTY OR NO CRIMINALS. Illegal vendors will not be allowed in Manila.

In some select locations, officials had cleared a municipality from the streets during the holidays.

Manila Mayor Lito Lita said that such municipalities would be in place in the city.

He said Manila's regulated vending program would remain in effect until the end of the year.

"There will be no change in policy on during the Christmas month of December," Lita said.

"The fact that we have been able to control the situation in our vending

areas, especially during this time of the year, means that our program is effective," Lita said.

"Expanded vending regulations will be on a temporary and not permanent basis."

Off limits

The mayor said that some and shops should be in Districts, as well as the streets of Manila, would remain off limits to vendors to keep them away from the streets during the holidays.

In Districts, however, vendors will be allowed to do business along Calabarzon, Carlos Palanca Elementary School and Villaluna streets, Lita said.

"Many of the vendors in the city are now regulated and more than 60,000," he noted. They are also regulated because their operations have been legitimized.

"We were able to keep the streets clean and clear for the use of pedestrians and motorists. Our program was able to address the demand vendors to make a decent living with no interfering public interest," Lita said.

Lita said that the police would be responsible for any violations of the ordinance during the holidays.

"They (police) should keep vendors away from prohibited areas, sidewalks, or busy corridors," he said.

Have sticker, Fight for Sta. Lucia not over, says Cainta exec

By Nancy C. Cuyajon

TO PROTECT LAWYERS' RIGHTS and operators, Manila officials are introducing a sticker system to regulate the use of the city.

Manila Mayor Lito Lita said that the sticker system would be implemented in the city.

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"The sticker system will be implemented in the city," Lita said.

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By Edward C. Tumbaga Jr.

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It added, "The position of the local government unit (LGU) will find it difficult to implement the sticker system."

"Cainta said that with the sticker system, the sticker system will be implemented in the city."

Manila Mayor Lito Lita said that the sticker system would be implemented in the city.

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Sunday **BIZ**

FELIX Ang
34 yrs
youngster
boss

He shelved college to get his hands dirty and fatten his bank account

By Tina Arnes-Duñas

IT IS A GOOD THING that Felix Ang of CAUS Inc. did not waste his

education. He would have missed a career in the corporate world instead of finding his own road in the automotive business.

Ang was just 11 when his mother first brought him to the car supply shop of his father's relatives. At 15, when he started to spend his after-school hours learning Chinese characters,

the "school" boy found with kind donors as he would accept the young, inexperienced, but eager part-time worker that Ang was in 1975.

Ang is the founder. He has got P80 a month for helping around the shop, washing screens and cleaning tires and bobs and spare parts used mainly by passenger jeeps.

A big Friday in

shop. But it was late in the evening for Ang, a much later after a year of working in the shop, he decided to quit school, clothes and donors all his time to learning the business.

"I managed to convince my parents that I could always go back to school if I don't succeed," Ang says.

In 1978, the 18-year-old Felix and his older brother, Tony, took a leap of faith when they decided to make out on their own, putting up a trading stall with vending going for their family experience and the blessing of Felix's former boss.

"We gave our very first break because he gave me the capital. I needed for our car accessories shop on credit," he says.

Their only capital was a small local loan. But they were worth P10,000 that they used to finance their goods to and from their first 25-square-meter shop along Del Monte Ave. in Quezon City.

Then their shop became the first of many shops that got bigger and better each time they expanded.

Felix says their business flourished because they were in the right place at the right time.

Cars in the late '70s to the '90s rolled out of the car dealers' shop here, such that the usual first thing to do after getting a car from a car dealer's shop was to go to a car accessories shop to dress it up.

"We sold a lot of floor mats. We had them in rubber, vinyl and others. Some 10

we had it," Ang says.

Further bolstering the business were the discounts by major car companies, such as Toyota, to pull one of the Philippines in the early 1980s due to economic uncertainties.

FIRST JOB

"Because it was harder to get a new car, people just buying their old car by buying accessories," Ang explains.

Soon, the Ang brothers became the leading forces in the car accessories business, supply-

NOVEMBER 11, 2001



Ang's group has become the Philippine distributor of Lancia Chrysler in the Philippines.

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Even the chicken bones are consumed

By Christine A. Gaylican

PALAWENO ERIC JOHN G. YAYEN BROUGHT the concept of a fast-food business with a twist to his hometown eight years ago.

Doing a first with his Hain Chicken Inato Restaurant, Eric proved to his kababayan and visiting tourists that excellent, affordable food could be served with grace and efficiency.

"Upon my return here in Puerto Princesa after being based in Manila for some time, I noticed that restaurants and food establishments catering to local and foreign tourists serve expensive food," shares Eric. "There are only a few choices and for me it is a disservice as we promote local tourism."

Seeing a window of opportunity for business and a deeper reason to return to his roots, Eric took a big gamble and invested his family savings of no less than P30,000 and started his restaurant business in 1997.

Making use of his knowledge and contacts in the construction business, he built his restaurant in the family property, more than a kilometer from the city proper. With the help of his wife and two kids, Eric sold his first batch of 1,500 sticks of chicken barbecue priced back then at P38 per stick (now its P54), which he personally prepares.

Now, both locals and tourists trek to the Hain Chicken Inato Restaurant to get a meal.

"I personally love cooking and I combined my mother's recipe with my own sweetened concoction for the chicken marinade," says Eric.

He says that difference with his marinated chicken barbecue is in perfecting the art of broiling that maintains the succulence of the chicken meat.

Now Eric's chicken inato restaurant could rival Manila's Mar's and Barrio Fiesta restaurants as it also serves native seafood delicacies aside from its fast-selling chicken barbecue.

Aside from serving regular diners, Hain Chicken Restaurant also does catering. The Yayens have expanded the restaurant area.

The success of Hain Chicken Restaurant is also passed on to the families from different barangays that supplies the restaurant with different ingredients and raw materials such as the bamboo sticks, banana leaves and coconut charcoal.

As Palawenos strive to preserve the environment, Eric proudly shares that the restaurant is 90 percent waste-free as the chicken bones and other leftovers are delivered to the local organic fertilizer manufacturers.

He says that they are also striving to be a waste-free establishment and its initiatives include the grinding of kitchen food wastes, which he turns to the Palawan Organic Farm for composting.

"The barbecue sticks I weave together and color, they are now improvised mats and wall hangings," shares Eric.



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"I was no longer comfortable about forwarding my clients' calls to an answering machine and giving away my cell phone number, so I brought up the idea of putting up this business to Millette," Cuervo says.

Carico saw a big possibility in opening a virtual office to serve people who were just starting in business and could not afford office space, or those whose businesses do not require them to have a permanent office space or a full time secretary. "Some people might just need someone to answer their calls when they're out on business meetings, and we could do that for them," Carico says. "Depending on their instructions, we could either forward calls or take a message."

The idea of offering such a service could not have come at a better time. With no end in sight to the weekly increases in oil prices, many businesses have been forced to look for ways to cut down on operational expenses. There are businesses that have opted to cut down on the number of their employees. The trend these days, however, is to have a virtual office.

A virtual office can offer all of the benefits of a traditional serviced office without the need to physically occupy any office space. A typical provider will offer a wide range of services to pick and choose from. This ranges from the basic, such as a prestigious mailing address or telephone answering, to the more advanced, such as web hosting and meeting room for hire. In short, how you benefit from the services of this kind of provider is entirely up to you.

You need not use all of the facilities a provider has to offer. A company looking for a way to handle incoming calls may choose to use just a telephone answering service as a cheaper alternative to hiring a receptionist.

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Sunday LIFE STYLE

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Halfway to heaven

By Dolores Pardo-Berjoe
Lifestyle Editor

The St. Paul de Chartres' Vigil House is a home for nuns run by nuns

RETIRED ST. PAUL NUNS are well on their way to heaven in their splendid new retirement home, the SPC Vigil House. It is where they receive peacefully, quietly spend their last days on earth, or recognize their illness.

As the name suggests, the Vigil House is also where wakes are held for deceased nuns before they are brought to their final resting place, the Garden of Peace in the Lady of Chartres Cemetery in San Juan.

Located on a 25-hectare site at 22 km, Manila East Road in Taytay, Rizal, the SPC Vigil House is an imposing edifice. It features some 500 rooms in the building across various floors. The lot was partly donated by Oscar Lopez, then Lopez Group Foundation, with the help of Ben Sanchez, former SJ.

The new Vigil House is one of the most projects of St. Mary Magdalene Torres, known to many SPCM Foundation as the strict-but-loving high school principal in the 1980s, and now based in Annapolis.

"The minute I saw the inside of the Vigil House and saw the smiling faces of the nuns, beautiful and happy memories of my school days filled my mind," said Ben Sanchez-Medilla.

"There was an overwhelming sense of belonging. As I remembered that those nuns played a big part in my formative years. When I saw the school-bus-painted buildings there, my heart just went out to them," she said.

The P100-million five-story main building took one year to build. Another six months were spent for the building interiors.

Young architect Edmar Lacerda designed the building, making sure the place was comfortable as possible for the nuns' residence.

Accessible

He made the chapel easily accessible from the main rooms and had the SPC logo etched on glass doors or shaped in marble on ramps in the main areas. In the formal parlor, a family room, too, he saw furniture and sleeping quarters for relatives of the deceased.

Matting rooms have their own separate rooms and there are two elevators for the wheelchair-bound.

It is a home for nuns run by nuns. Aging and ailing nuns are given rooms from 12 private units. The bedrooms occupy the left wing and some bedrooms made at first in bedrooms with 60-63 beds.

Smaller rooms are arranged in the place.

Head administrator and superior is St. Mary Philip Galvan, who knows every nook and cranny of the new Vigil House and all its occupants and staff. St. Maria Theresa Maria is head of nursing services, assisted by St. Bertranda Padolina. St. Cecilia Sabantina is another dominican.

Nuns work in the chapel and kitchen or make liquid disinfectant soap, candles, jarring, folded paper objects, and choose jobs for tasks. The house has a regular staff of about 60 people.

"I was very-eyed when I saw the nuns in the infirmary praying the rosary. It was difficult to hold back my tears when I saw the bedridden nuns. [Working] made me aware toward the nuns at the end of the road. The here had a certain glow that reminded me of the Virgin Mary. I forgot her name but I remembered her from my grade school days at St. Paul College, Pinaric, Cebu. May all the nuns have many more years ahead of them," said Mother Santiago Padolina.

Encouraging

People were impressed that the retired nuns were conversing, making their own liquid soap which would make good Christmas gifts. The volunteers to accept visitors and pick them up from the Vigil House.

Any visitor said, "The infirmary ward is airy and well-lit and does not smell like a hospital."

"Since the oxygen supply is piped in, tanks are not needed and the place is not as hot as hospital-like appearance," she added.

The Vigil House has ties with several hospitals and schools like Philippine General Hospital, University of the East, Batangas Misamis Memorial Medical Center and St. Paul University Manila. They need doctors, nursing students, disciplines, and interns help. Emergency cases are brought in the nearby Manila East Medical Center.

First wake

Two months after it opened, the Vigil House had one wake, for St. Catherine Guzman, who passed away at the age of 102. She is a relative of Mariano Guzman Aguirre, head of the SPCM Alumni Homecoming.



OLD NUNS are here to break. Retirement along from during their morning breakfast.

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STYLE

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She's no longer in a party mood

DEAR EMILY,

I have this new group of friends who, for the past several weeks, have been out partying every weekend.

I'm getting quite tired of it. I would spend on party clothes almost every week to look my best, not to mention the money spent on expensive drinks.

I've been a club goer for almost six years now and it has always been the same... partying, dancing, meeting all kinds of people, getting drunk, getting wild... I think it's not for me anymore.

I've had enough and feel I've already graduated from that. I just want out but I don't want my friends to think I'm a killjoy or that I don't know how to make "sabay."

It's all right with me to have a night-out or gimmick occasionally or one weekend of every month.

But the way things are going right now, my friends want to make a career out of it! My boyfriend and I can't have our own dates anymore because it's like we're expected to be with them every single weekend.

It's not easy making up excuses. My guy also does not know how to break away from them because he doesn't want our friends to think we're different from them.

My boyfriend and I could barely save anymore. Its kind of getting out of hand already.

MISS VODKA

Looks like you're all still in your teens or early 20s to be really this serious about gigs and clubbing. You knew these people only recently and already they are running your lives!

But before you despair that you and your boyfriend will be the odd couple in this group, how do you know that some of the others are not as sick and tired of the whole party scene? How do you know that someone else is not quietly trying to get out after realizing how empty everything is—empty camaraderie, empty conversations, empty laughter? That this party scene has not become one big empty thoughtless existence to them, too?

This group seems to have that herd-mentality—aimlessly wandering around, looking happy, chattering endlessly, but not really knowing what's happening.

What is it that makes you and your boyfriend reluctant to leave? Why do you seem stuck and tied to this aimless group? So what if they start badmouthing you?

Do you or your boyfriend owe a big favor to anyone in the group? Do you have an unpaid debt perhaps? Are you beholden to any of them for your jobs? Don't you two have minds of your own? Who cares about what anybody says about anything!

Next time this group plans a weekend outing, tell them you and your boyfriend already have a previous commitment. Don't make detailed excuses. Make your explanation short and sweet. Say there'll always be a next time. And when the next weekend comes, do the same thing.

Don't worry about telling a lie. It's a small white lie and nobody's going to die because of it. Sooner or later they'd realize what you and your boyfriend are trying to tell them.

It's a long life and, who knows, you might still want to get together with this group sometime—but on your own terms! It's a free world. Don't let anyone or any group hold you hostage. If you allow that to happen, nobody's to blame but yourself for your unease or unhappiness. There's only you to point the finger at.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, subject Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.

EMILY'S Post



Emily
A. Marcelo



BIENVENIDO Tanfoco III of host Rustan's

Manila hosts global meet of retail stores

Rustan's is the only Philippine member
of the Intercontinental Group of Department Stores

RUSTAN'S HOSTED RECENTLY the 57th Intercontinental Group of Department Stores (IGDS) General Assembly and Convention 2005.

Theme of the annual meeting was "Thinking Beyond Products and Services." This year's meeting discussed the needs of today's rapidly changing market that required a fresher, much broader perspective for stores to remain innovative and dynamic.

The intercontinental group is a network seeking to foster global ties and establish close links among delegates.

Rustan's is the only member in the Philippines of the organization, affirming its position as a world-class player in luxury trading.

The conference included talks by top-level executives such as Yuvadee Bhicharnchit, president of the IGDS and Central of Thailand, and Theodore Koh, managing director and head of the European retail establishment Citigroup, London.

Founded in 1946, the IGDS organizes more than 20 conferences per year on store and retail issues to give members an opportunity to interact and exchange information.

Recognizing their corporate social responsibility, all IGDS members agree to be actively involved in minimizing the adverse impacts of their business activities on the environment, and to create equal economic opportunities for employees and local communities.

The IGDS currently has 34 members from 32 countries and is the largest organization of its type. Members have a combined annual sales of over US\$60 billion.



YUWADEE Bhicharnchit, IGDS president and president of Central, Thailand

PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT)



JOEL Tanfoco



BJØRN Munne



DOUGLAS Hsu



WERNER Studer